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DEPARTMENT FOR S/SRAP, SCA/PB
DEPARTMENT FOR PRM/ECA (NORMAN HASTINGS)

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TAGS: PREL EAID PHUM ETRD PK UK

SUBJECT: EU-PAKISTAN SUMMIT: DELIVERABLES ON TRADE, IDPS,
GSP PLUS, AND SECURITY COOPERATION

REF: STATE 58282

Classified By: Political Counselor Richard Mills, reasons 1.4 (b/d).

11. (C/NF) Acknowledging that internal EU discussions on deliverables for the EU-Pakistan had been "tough going," UK Foreign Office Pakistan Team leader Matthew Lawson and Desk Officer Bikash Dawahoo said the UK had secured deliverables on trade, General Schedule Preferences Plus (GSP Plus), IDPs, and security cooperation. (Complete draft statement emailed to S/SRAP and SCA/PB.) While the final trade deliverable fell short of the UK's objective of a framework that would lead to a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the EU and Pakistan, the draft statement, as agreed with the Government of Pakistan (GOP), announces an enhanced trade dialogue that will "step up engagement on trade" and offer technical assistance. While the full modalities of the concrete actions are still being worked out, Dawahoo said that technical assistance would focus on building trade capacity and improving fisheries hygiene to allow for fish products to be exported to the EU, at the GOP's request. The draft statement also includes language about working toward an FTA.

GSP Plus

12. (C/NF) The draft statement announces that in 2011 there will be a regulations review in preparation for implementation of GSP Plus in 2012, which will allow for a preferential tariffs regime between the EU and Pakistan. Lawson explained that before 2012 it will be important to many EU members for the GOP to ratify all outstanding UN conventions on human rights. He noted that the GOP's implementation - not just ratification - of the UN conventions will be an important point during the final review before GSP Plus implementation.

IDP/Humanitarian Support

13. (C/NF) Noting that Ambassador Holbrooke's recent meeting with the EU Heads of Mission was "very good" and his message was "couched perfectly," Lawson said the EU was looking at announcing additional support for IDPs and the humanitarian situation possibly to the tune of 100 million Euros (please strictly protect this figure until the EU's public announcement, which will likely come during the summit). Caveating that the final sum had not yet been agreed, Lawson said this is "much more" than the UK has been pushing for (reftel).

Security/CT Cooperation

14. (C/NF) Lawson also said the draft statement includes a security/CT dialogue. While the specific mechanisms of CT support to Pakistan are still being agreed, he said it would likely include police training.

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